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# Extension Service

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## To feed the fire fighters

HELEN EDWARDS, Home Demonstration Agent, Santa Cruz County, Calif.

California now has 2,600 groups of men and women well organized to fight fires. Home demonstration agents are following this up by training small groups of women to feed the fire fighters as is here described in Santa Cruz County.

■ To be ready for any fire emergency which might arise this summer and fall, it was decided to train a group of women in Santa Cruz County, Calif., in large-scale cooking and feeding for fire fighters. Two all-day meetings were held in each of 11 communities during May and June, and the organization and plans are now complete in each community. The agricultural agent, the State forest ranger, Red Cross executives, and key women in the county took part in developing the plans.

One of the first things done was to meet with the fire chiefs from the county and explain the plans to them. The county agent, State forest ranger, and chairman of the county defense council met with them. All expressed their approval and their desire to cooperate.

At the request of the State ranger, the fire chiefs organized the first meeting. The ranger agreed to pay for any supplies used in feeding fire fighters and to furnish salt tablets. To those whom he designated to transport the supplies he gave the authority to contract for any supplies needed. There are five fire cooks in the county; and if there are not more than five fires at any one time, each district can count on the help of one cook and the equipment from the ranger's office. Alternate plans were made in case each community had to take care of itself.

Each woman attending the training meetings made out menus for 24 hours, including a breakfast, dinner, and a lunch which could be carried to the scene of the fire. They also made out a grocery order to cover it.

In some sections, the assembling of equipment was difficult; in others it presented no problem at all. In some cases, the men will be transported to the central cooking place for eating, but generally both mobile and stationary service were planned so that whichever seemed advisable when the fire

was actually burning could be used. Each community represented unique problems which were worked out by the women, cooperating with the ranger and the fire chief.

The community of Zayante, for example, is on a one-way road where transportation and movement might become difficult if certain areas were on fire, so Zayante was made a special district. The cooking and feeding will be done at "Our Ranch" or "Forde's Rest," two rather large summer resorts. The owners attended the meetings and were willing to have all their equipment used and to assist with large-quantity cooking. If a fire should break out in the district, it was agreed that summer visitors would depart and all the facilities would be available. The State ranger took responsibility for bringing supplies from the storehouse at Felton about 5 miles distant. The women have perfected their organization into day and night shifts. With few telephones in the community, a system of notifying the women workers speedily has been worked out.

The food preparation at Scotts Valley will be done at the large, well-equipped kitchen of the recently completed school building. The State forest ranger and the fire chief have agreed that no matter where the fire is, more time and effort will be saved in this district if the men are transported to the school for their meals, with the exception of lunches, which will be taken to them. The stove burns bottled gas, but two wood ranges are nearby, which can be used in extra cooking. Scotts Valley is well situated to receive supplies easily, either from Santa Cruz or Felton.

Corralitos has a little different problem, as a permanent fire station is located there with six deputy forest rangers and a cook among the permanent personnel. The fire cook is working with the women on plans for an emergency larger than he can care for himself. He has asked that the women be

ready to help with lunches to be taken to the fire line and that they make large quantities of coffee. Women will also make a number of one-dish meals, cooking them at home and bringing them to the fire house if the emergency requires. The fact that Corralitos is a rather compact community makes this plan feasible. Should a fire break out far up one of the canyons, they are also prepared, with a mobile unit, for such an emergency.

In the mountain district, cooking will be done at either the Mountain school or the Mobley residence on the old San Jose road. Most of the equipment must be assembled, and so the chairman has made lists of everything she will need and given copies of what each is to bring to the women signed up to help. There are some places in the district where, if a fire breaks out, it might be wiser to do some cooking in two or three houses and then assemble the food. A list of supplies which would be needed has been submitted to the local store, 3 or 4 miles away, and the storekeeper has promised to have all of it on hand and easily accessible any time of the day and night during the fire season.

Each district has on hand 5 pounds of the material recommended by the County Health Department for dish sterilization; has made plans for garbage disposal; has plenty of dish towels, paper towels, and soap on hand. Arrangements have been made for plenty of hot water and waxed paper; and some have coffee, canned milk, and tomato juice. The State ranger has obtained a ruling from the sugar rationing board that, in communities where there is a fire, extra sugar will be available for their use.

The women were enthusiastic about the work and in many cases helped the men in their fire-fighting organization program. Women got the men to enroll and urged attendance at the demonstrations given by the forest ranger and the county agent.

Many women attended the two all-day meetings on feeding fire fighters, who had not previously attended home demonstration meetings. A good opportunity was afforded them in these two meetings to review the principles of good nutrition, and the women appreciated the information. It is probably one of the most satisfying rounds of meetings held in the county. It has unified communities at a time when they have needed it and has given the information which if it is needed will be mighty useful.



# School children mobilized and trained for farm work

ROBERT RIEDER, County Agent, Marion County, Oreg.

The farmers of Marion County, Oreg., had a foretaste in 1941 of what a shortage of labor for harvesting 230,000 acres of highly diversified crops might mean to them in 1942. When word came that the farm labor problem would be much more serious in 1942 and that the solution would lie largely in recruiting all the help available in each State, county, and community, the suggestion was taken seriously.

In accordance with the State-wide plan suggested by the Federal Employment Service and the Oregon Extension Service, we organized a county farm labor subcommittee of the county agricultural planning committee. This committee worked hard and was successful in obtaining a high degree of cooperation throughout the county. The usual registration of women and children for farm work was accomplished by the cooperating agencies, but that was just the beginning.

The committee saw in the 10,000 Marion County school children enrolled one of the most important potential sources of help for their 5,000 farms. It seized with enthusiasm upon a plan proposed by Marion County school executives to organize those children into an intelligent, trained work force rather than a mob of untrained and undirected, even if well-meaning youngsters.

The result is that throughout the season this county has been supplied with capable and well-trained workers of school age who have helped to care for and to harvest a considerable proportion of Marion County's 3,100 acres of strawberries, 2,300 acres of cherries, 2,500 acres of raspberries, blackberries, and other fruits, 1,800 acres of beans, 5,400 acres of prunes, 3,700 acres of walnuts, and 9,000 acres of hops.

The plan for actually training these youngsters in advance was suggested by Frank Bennett, superintendent of the Salem schools, and Richard Barss, superintendent of one of the county junior high schools, and was carried out by Mrs. Agnes Booth, the county school superintendent, in cooperation with educational leaders throughout the county.

These school men sat in with the county farm-labor subcommittee, representatives of the United States Employment Service, and the county agricultural agent to compile a unit of study for the youngsters on the subject of Youth's Place in the Food for Victory program. Before the schools were dismissed this spring, the course had been given to 10,000 children.

In the course of this study the children were taught the importance of the Food for Victory program, how the war required in-

creased production and hence more labor to produce it, and how the military and industrial needs were draining regular farm help from the county.

They were taught that the battle lines of this war involve the entire civilian population, with each person having special tasks to perform and extra burdens to undertake if America is to emerge victorious. They learned that, as the youth of the Nation, they had a definite part to fill. Each boy and girl in each schoolroom was needed to lend a hand in shaping the destiny of this country.

These children were taught also that the most important way in which they could contribute to helping win this war was to share in the seasonal farm labor in their own counties. They were given the following reasons why it would be worth while for them to help with the year's harvests:

1. From the patriotic standpoint.
2. Experience.—Gain valuable experience from doing that type of farm work which would help them to gain other jobs in the future.
3. Wages.—They earn money to help their parents meet living expenses and to help with their own maintenance.
4. Health.—Farm work will build strong muscles, provide outdoor work, and plenty of sunshine.
5. Personal satisfaction.—The feeling that they have contributed in a material way to help the Nation in this war effort.

The program still would not have been a success had it stopped at that point. Instead,

the students were carried further in their formal training through explaining what responsibilities they would have to assume in undertaking to do seasonal farm work. They were drilled in the importance of punctuality, reliability, good conduct, manners, cooperation, and discipline, how not to be destructive to equipment or crops, and to take pride in their accomplishments. They were given a preliminary insight into how the various crops are harvested, the equipment needed in harvesting, kind of clothes to wear, and the wages they could expect.

They were told that they did not need to find their own jobs unless they preferred to do so. The Marion County plan included an arrangement to bring the youngsters and the jobs together. Teachers in considerable numbers were engaged for the summer to supervise platoons of the young volunteer workers organized into groups of 30. These platoons were scheduled for certain jobs in certain communities, to work for growers who understand children and were ready to cooperate with the plan.

Final details of transportation were left to be worked out between the growers and platoon leaders. The grower pays the same straight piece-work wages to the boys and girls, as he pays adults. Growers who used these platoons in the fruit harvest were well pleased and considered themselves lucky to have them.

The preparatory program of instruction brought definitely favorable results, according to William H. Baillie, in charge of the Salem office of the United States Employment Service.

Mr. Baillie says that it engendered a genuine desire in the youth to be helpful in the harvest program and brought about a very wholesome attitude toward work. Boys and girls of all ages, and even their parents who otherwise might not have been interested in helping, have flocked to the employment agency eager to be sent out to farms where they might be helpful in the fields.





Although this youth program was the most distinctive feature of Marion County's approach to the farm-labor crisis, it was still only part of it.

In past years a large part of the seasonal requirements on Marion County's diversified farms was met by migratory workers from this and neighboring States. Only a small number of the usual migratory laborers showed up this year. Meanwhile, in common with other parts of the country, Marion County farms suffered the draining away of the regular farm hands to military services and war industries, but at a rate considerably accelerated by the nearby shipyards at Portland, the aluminum plants, and a still closer huge cantonment construction project.

With this situation developing, the Marion County farm-labor committee prepared to make full use of all available local labor. Far more women than usual enlisted for work on the farms and in the fruit and vegetable canneries.

The committee includes farmers from every section of the county and from every major farming enterprise. The local manager of the U. S. Employment Service and the county agent are ex officio members.

A valuable aid has been the county crop labor report made as a result of an understanding between the Division of Agricultural Statistics, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, of the United States Department of Agriculture and the Oregon Extension Service. Report blanks are furnished by the Extension Service and sent to the county agent for checking at regular weekly or biweekly intervals during the harvest seasons. The agent then includes in the report his best estimates of crop conditions with respect to probable yield and date of harvesting. This information is then used by the United States Employment Service in making its agricultural labor report showing the complete current labor demand and supply situation.

Although the main committee worked on a county basis, other local farm-labor committees were established in several parts of the county. For example, one labor committee was set up on the initiative of one of the county committee members in the Woodburn area. With the help of high-school students, it canvassed every family in the city of Woodburn in an effort to determine how many persons would be available for the kinds of seasonal work.

This local committee did such a good job and was able to show the need for so many additional workers that the United States Employment Service set up a branch office to handle the problems in that one locality.

In the neighboring community of Mount Angel, the local bakery devised a method of giving service to farm people by listing on a blackboard in a store window the needs of particular farmers as to how much help they wanted and when they would need it. In the Stayton community the businessmen of the town arranged to close shops when necessary

to avoid a critical situation in the bean harvest.

In still another part of the county, the Silvertown Hills Grange set up its own local labor committee, which made a survey of all the farmers in the area and listed their entire labor needs for the whole season as far as they could be foreseen. From this they were able to make requests to the employment service in advance and to inform the public accurately as to local labor needs.

## Connecticut volunteers are active

■ The gardening and canning inventory was the first job undertaken by Connecticut volunteer leaders. A committee of volunteers has been set up in each township, headed by a chairman and enough neighborhood volunteers to provide 1 for each 10 families.

Complete returns from 60 towns and incomplete returns from 8 others show that 10,706 families are living in rural areas and 9,936 families were interviewed, a coverage of 93 percent. Some towns reported more than 100 percent coverage because when the volunteers visited the neighborhood, they found families of whose existence they were unaware. Eight thousand two hundred and thirty-two of the families had gardens this year, or 83 percent of those interviewed. Only 72 percent of these families had gardens last year. Fifty-five percent of the families grew more produce this year than last. The families interviewed are planning to can almost a million cans of vegetables, including tomatoes, carrots, greens, kraut, and squash, also 456,912 cans of fruit.

As soon as sufficient returns have been tabulated to give a fair picture of the situation in the State, a printed report will be made to the persons who took part in the survey. It will be prepared in leaflet form and sent back through the neighborhood system, with the county staff adding supplemental information on the county figures. Comparisons will be drawn between the amounts of vegetables and fruits being canned in rural Connecticut this year, and the amounts that would be considered adequate for family use through the winter. Families will be asked to check their own performance against the canning budget.

Local action as a result of neighborhood-leader activities comes to the front in Connecticut. For example, in Watertown the committee of volunteers, after taking a garden and canning inventory, realized the need for better marketing facilities for the local surplus of vegetables. A subcommittee was appointed, permission obtained to use the community house parking lot, and a Saturday market was established. Neighborhood farmers and gardeners will bring vegetables

With such local action being multiplied throughout the county and with plans already laid to enlarge greatly the school platoon system next year, it is felt that Marion County farmers will be able to make the maximum contribution to the Food for Victory program. The tremendous exodus of manpower from the county into the other two major war sectors—military service and industry—is causing much difficulty, but the farm sector is still being held.

and fruits to the market for housewives in the village who are canning.

In Morris, the committee of volunteers is pooling orders for electrical repair work so that an electrician can come from the city and have a full day's work in a single neighborhood. Such ideas spread. When Watertown heard about the Morris plan, it was immediately adopted at Watertown. Besides pooling repair orders, the Watertown people are holding a meeting in the village to discuss care of electrical equipment. People will be notified of the meeting by telephone through the neighborhood leadership system.

## Buy a Bond

Profits from milking cows go into war savings bonds for 11-year-old Alan Washburne, a second-year 4-H Club member of Windsor, Vt. Alan went to the post office to buy his bond the same day that the camera crew from the war savings staff of the United States Treasury Department arrived in Windsor to picture some scenes at the local post office. So Alan stars in the movie, telling Postmaster Murphy how he milked the cows at 3 cents a day and made a net daily profit of 18 cents, and how he saved for 100 days to get the money with which to buy the \$25 bond that day. Besides milking cows, Alan is growing a 4-H garden as a member of the Busy Bee Club, and last year he had a flock of 50 birds for his 4-H project. Alan winds up his appearance in the picture by saying: "After we win this war, I'm going to own a farm of my own." And he will not be unprepared.

## Bring in the Scrap

Fleming County, Ky., 4-H'ers visited 750 farms during the scrap-metal campaign, besides making trips to show dealers exactly where the scrap was available. They worked all summer. According to the last report, they had collected 160,000 pounds of metal, 450 pounds of rubber, 1,250 pounds of paper, and 500 pounds of rags.



# Urban women attend 6 a. m. farmers' party

■ Nearly 600 urban women in the Twin City area set their alarm clocks for day-break to be on time at the 6 a. m. vitamins-for-victory party held on succeeding Fridays in August in St. Paul and Minneapolis. The parties were sponsored by the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service. Hosts were farm men and women regularly selling home-grown produce on the two municipal wholesale markets.

▲ Little more than a year ago, Ralph V. Backstrom, assistant extension marketing specialist, began supplying local newspapers and radio stations with a list of the day's best buys in home-grown produce offered in wholesale lots at the farmers' markets in both cities. This service was so popular, and inquiries for more information were so frequent, that Mr. Backstrom invited housewives on a tour of the market during the peak of operation—6 a. m. At each party, no more than 50 women were expected, yet, at that initial tour and again this year, nearly 300 turned out from each city.

The programs were similar at the two markets. A siren gathered the women about the speakers' platform. Then the flag of the United States was raised, and 300 voices sang our national anthem. Growers gave 3-minute summaries of crop conditions and answered homemakers' questions. Commission men and representatives of the Retail Grocers' Association described how they select quality and "bargains." Family tires were considered when grocers, visiting the markets each morning, offered to make canning purchases for those customers who mentioned their needs the preceding day.

A nutritionist from the Agricultural Extension Service conducted a canning "clinic," which after the program was concluded at 7:30, was besieged by women wanting more information, more recipes, and more questions answered.

A display of Government-graded produce explained why bunches of carrots in the same store at the same time may vary 2 or 3 cents in price, and an attendant pointed out the wisdom and economy of using U. S. No. 2 tomatoes for soup, for instance, and spending the extra pennies on U. S. No. 1's for salad.

It's the homemaker's responsibility to see that she gets what she pays for, and an exhibit arranged by the State Department of Weights and Measures showed her how to do it.

Up and down the long, unwallied sheds, homemakers studied produce on more than 300 farmers' stalls, talked with growers and their wives (up since 3 a.m. loading and transporting their fruit and vegetables to market), and gathered tips for keeping that

top quality and freshness right through cooking and to the table.

Before the party was ended, five gate prizes were presented among the guests, a ½-bushel basket of specially packed produce and four "climax" baskets of vegetables from nearby Minnesota farms. To each woman as she left the grounds went a large shopping bag bearing the title, "Vitamins for Victory Party," the date, and the address of the municipal market. In the souvenir bags were several samples of seasonal products from farmers' booths, carrots, beets, cabbage, pota-

## Leaders go the second mile

ARTHUR C. AUSERMAN, County Agricultural Agent, Vernon County, Missouri

■ Lights shone in 95 of the 113 rural school-houses in Vernon County, Mo., the evening of July 6, and in any one of them a visitor would have heard an earnest group discussing the program to check inflation. In every case the discussion was led by a man or woman living in that school district.

Attending these meetings were 1,371 persons representing 677 Vernon County families. The meetings held that night were but the first of a continuing series, the first test of rural voluntary leadership at work on war jobs.

Leaders such as these, chosen and trained for their separate responsibilities, have gone out through their neighborhoods as the Paul Reveres, the minute men and women, carrying to every farm home the information needed for the solution of urgent wartime problems.

They have discussed from house to house the menace of inflation and told each family of the best ways to "dig in" against this danger.

They have informed their neighbors of the scarcity of seed of fall-sown grains and have pooled for the common welfare all information on sources of good seed of the right kinds.

They have quickly disseminated the news of the Government's release of feeding wheat, together with the college recommendations on feeding this surplus grain to each class of livestock.

They have tackled the farm transportation problem, working out with their neighbors the solutions possible within their respective districts and for the county as a whole.

They are working on fat salvage and clearing up any remaining questions on sugar rationing.

Throughout all these activities, the will-

toes—an embryo vegetable stew at its best.

Besides such celebrities as women's favorite radio commentators and newspaper columnists, there were present at the party the wife of the mayor of St. Paul, a former governor's wife, and representatives of the nutrition divisions of the State and municipal Red Cross and Office of Civilian Defense.

Transcriptions of the program and of the comments of women attending the party were heard later in the day on the homemakers' radio program, sponsored by the Agricultural Extension Service. During the following week the transcriptions were broadcast on the same program and also on a noon Farm Hour, in order to increase interest in the second party the next Friday. Newspapers and radio stations publicized the events in connection with their daily reports of best buys.

ingness of these leaders to give their time to the war effort has been outstanding. Of the 363 leaders asked to serve as chairmen, vice chairmen, and secretaries of the first series of meetings, only 5 refused. Even during the rush of haying, corn plowing, and small-grain harvesting in the last part of June, 244 of these leaders attended night meetings to receive training for their duties of leadership. As additional job leaders have been selected and trained, this willing spirit has prevailed. The rural families of Vernon County, even in their busiest season of production and harvest, have shown a determination to go the second mile, to find time also to do a part of the educational work necessary in winning the war.

## Student Labor

County Agent A. Eugene Harris, Meade County, Kans., acted as intermediary during the spring and summer for farmers seeking labor and college students who wanted vacation employment. By means of letters and bulletin-board notices mailed to colleges and junior colleges in Kansas, he located 100 students interested in farm jobs. Information concerning these boys then was provided to farmers, who had indicated their need of help. In 3 days in late May, farmers visiting the county farm bureau office wrote for 20 of the students to come to work.

■ A club exchange or bulletin board where members can post notices of things they have to sell or trade is a regular feature at meetings of the Oklahoma Land Home Demonstration Club in Parmer County, Tex.



# J. B. Pierce, His vision carries on

■ J. B. Pierce, field agent in Negro extension work died in Hampton, Va., on August 2. Born in Greenville, Ala., in 1875, he was an early graduate of Tuskegee and Hampton Institutes. Stationed at Hampton Institute, he represented the Federal Extension Service in consulting and advising with State directors of extension on the conduct and development of extension work with Negroes in Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland, Kentucky, Arkansas, and Tennessee.

He began his extension work in 1906, when he was appointed to work under the direction of Dr. Seaman A. Knapp in establishing farm demonstrations with Negro families in Norfolk County, Va. In all the 36 years since then, he has given able, conscientious, and devoted service to Negro farm people. Writing of this service, Reuben Brigham, Assistant Director of Extension Work, said: "His steadfast loyalty to his ideal of the happy, thrifty, self-sufficing rural community was a constant inspiration and incentive to practical achievements, not only to his own people, but to all who came in contact with him. Zeal, patience, tact, loyalty, and sympathetic understanding, these were qualities that he exemplified to an extraordinary degree." When Secretary Wickard heard of his death, he said "The Department loses one of its best field men. We shall miss him, and his race will miss him."

The loss is perhaps keenest for Negro farm families that have learned to know him as a friend and to trust him. The best tribute to his work can be found in such communities as Loomis, Va., one of the many that have caught the vision of better agriculture and satisfying farm life, which he wrote about in the REVIEW of last January.

Loomis held its annual Achievement Day on August 28, checking up on last year's progress. There was sadness, for this year their good friend J. B. Pierce, who had planned to be with them as usual, was not there. Remembering his teaching, they went resolutely ahead, setting even bigger goals, determined to make a reality of the vision which he had shown them—"a vision of a day when the lowest income farmers in America could live at home, educate their children in nearby training schools, and build for themselves a satisfying farm life."

Most of the folks in Loomis were on hand for Achievement Day for, of the 105 families living in the community, 67 are active members of the Community Club. Sixty-four farmers own their own places, 29 more than when the club was organized 6 years ago. One family reported buying its farm during the past year. These four pictures shown here are typical of the progress reported on Achievement Day and, better than anything else, testify to the life and work of John Baptist Pierce.

## Better Living in Better Homes

They moved into a shiny, white new home from the old shacks in the rear. Only 44 of the 105 homes in Loomis were painted last year, but 23 more farm families painted their homes this year. The community boasts 4 bathrooms now, 2 of them put in recently.



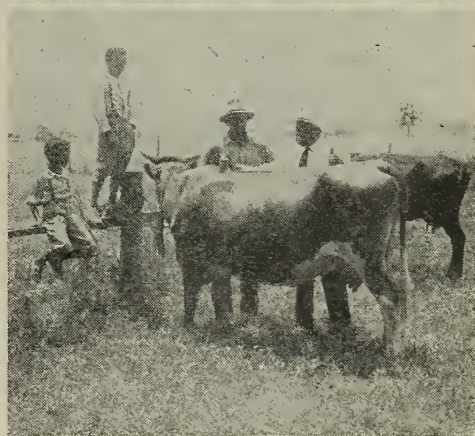
## Hams in the Smokehouse

A charter member of the club, Mrs. Boykins, has been leading the way with a full smokehouse. The goal calls for 2 or more hogs per family. When this year's survey was taken, 97 of the 105 families had reached the mark. All but 5 reported 12 or more laying hens. Sixty-eight farmers grew their own stock feed.



## Milk Cows on Pasture

J. B. Pierce admired the cow on a recent visit to Loomis. The shortage of family milk cows was found to be the biggest problem of all. Only 41 families had provided a milk cow last year, but 8 more reached the goal this year. The owner of this fine Jersey got his start in a 4-H Club 10 years back, and 4-H Clubs are still a potent force in the community.



## Variety in the Vegetable Garden

A FSA client recommended by the Negro county agent for a loan because of the excellent progress the family were making in achieving their live-at-home goals. They easily meet the garden requirements for one-fourth acre or more of root, leaf, and seed crops in sufficient quantities to supply the year-round needs of the family. This is only 1 of 99 families with just such a garden.





# War bonds from scrap

TRUMAN J. HENLEY, Extension Assistant in Publicity, Minnesota

■ This is the story of youth on a week-end drive in the country—not for pleasure but for Uncle Sam. When several hundred Martin County 4-H boys tossed their school-books aside one Friday afternoon early in May and stormed the countryside for anything that would make bullets or tanks for Uncle Sam's fighting forces all over the world, no one dreamed how successful they would be. They swept through the yards and fields of Martin County's 2,000 farms and came back with more than 400,000 pounds of scrap iron and rubber. By Saturday night bathtime, every scrap yard in the county was buried under mountains of old tires and worn-out farm machinery. Dealers worked overtime checking the truckloads of scrap material and wondered if there would ever be enough railroad cars to move these mountains to processing plants. Newspaper editors and photographers recorded the deluge of iron and rubber, and Martin County folks were quick to take notice of this youthful salvage army.

Today, the 22 Martin County 4-H Clubs have put \$1,300 into war bonds with the proceeds of the salvage drive. Two days' work paid for 52 bonds.

Martin County is proud of these boys. It feels sure that there is not another county in the State or Nation that can equal the job performed by the Martin County 4-H'ers in gathering scrap metal and rubber. It may be wrong, but figures would be required to prove it. There was no fanfare, just teamwork. Ask the banker, the newspaper editor, the district judge, or any of the hundreds of people who witnessed the ceremonies when the Martin County clubs were presented with the war bonds by A. J. Kittleson, State 4-H Club leader.

Here's what Editor A. M. Nelson of the Fairmont Daily Sentinel said in his lead-off paragraph on Saturday, May 3, when the scrap-metal drive was going "great guns" and creating "headaches" for dealers at Fairmont, Svea City, Truman, and Sherburn:

"If the Nation could organize county by county, as the 4-H Clubs under the direction of Hilda Thurston, leader, and have machinery set in motion today for the scrap-metal and rubber drive, Uncle Sam would have so much of this priceless war material on hand that he wouldn't know what to do with it."

Hilda Thurston, county club agent in Martin County for the past 8 years, is the woman behind this story of old iron, rubber, and war bonds. She was given a free hand in organizing the salvage campaign in her county some time ago, and early in April she laid down what she believed to be simple rules for carrying out a successful drive.

"Every county," she said, "will probably be called on to make a drive of this kind. We

know that our farmers are busy in the fields, and we can't expect them to take time off from corn planting unless we have things well organized. The job must be done quickly, efficiently, and be so successful that everyone who takes part will feel that the time lost to corn planting was well spent."

First of all, Martin County farmers had to be told about the coming drive. Miss Thurston contacted each farmer in the county by mail, asking them to be ready to greet the 4-H pick-up squads that would swarm into the driveways either Friday afternoon or some time Saturday. Each farmer was asked to have his scrap metal and rubber sorted out in special piles. "No paper or tin cans, please!" she reminded, as these were to be picked up later in the month.

Next came the problem of transportation—and what Miss Thurston wanted here was a nonstop trip from farm to dealer. Too much valuable scrap material had been lost when salvage was stacked in the open. Once the scrap was loaded, it must be sure of a one-way ticket to the nearest dealer's yard. Thus, each 4-H dad received a letter asking him to volunteer his jalopy for an extra wartime job.

Realizing that this was no small favor, she said: "We all understand the tire situation. However, there is need for quick action on this drive, as the rubber supply will be completely depleted before 3 months pass, and the metal is needed for ammunition."

## Dads Furnish Trucks

In a very short time, 5 to 10 dads in each Martin County township looked to their trucks and wagons and made everything shipshape for the week-end blitzkrieg.

Just to make the system foolproof, a letter was sent to the adult leaders of each 4-H Club, asking them personally to see to it that every township had its full quota of captains and to be prepared to find substitutes on short notice. Each adult leader knew just what sections were to be covered by the crews in his or her township. It was up to the leaders to see that no farm was missed—no farmer would want to have his piles of scrap material left behind.

There was only one job left to do. There had to be plenty of 4-H power on the wagons and trucks. Every 4-H boy, 12 years of age and older, who could help toss an old plow-share, stove, or tire onto a truck was asked to be on the job.

Dealers were warned ahead of time to open their gates, and the gates swung wide and often on May 2 and 3. By noon on Saturday, 35 loads of rubber had been unloaded at the Wishnick yard in Fairmont. Another 6 or 7 heavily loaded trucks were lined up outside

the yard. One of the largest loads of rubber was brought in by Irvin Malo and George Taplin from 12 sections in Silver Lake township. Their load weighed 3,130 pounds. 4-H boys and their dads kept track of the number of loads and the weights, and on Saturday each captain and his helpers received a check from the dealer. Checks were made payable to the township 4-H Clubs, and by the following Monday every check had been turned over to the adult leader. Expenses of conducting the campaign were shared equally by the 22 clubs. The balance went into the club treasuries.

It didn't take long for the 700 4-H Club boys and girls in Martin County to decide what to do with the money. It wasn't enough, they said, to back up their Uncle Sam with scrap metal and old rubber. It was time to put their money into war bonds and stamps.

## Profits Buy Shares in U. S.

The \$1,300 earned by gathering scrap, at the expense of a few blisters and bruises, provided a real investment in the war effort. The club members realized, however, that this could not be counted as an individual sacrifice, but rather an example of club patriotism. But don't sell Martin County 4-H'ers short when it comes to individual sacrifice. To date, \$7,400 in war bonds and nearly \$1,000 in war stamps, in addition to those bought with scrap money, have been purchased by clubs and individual members. Together with the iron and rubber funds, Martin County 4-H boys and girls have a cash investment in Uncle Sam's future amounting to nearly \$10,000.

The public was given an opportunity to acclaim the spirit and drive of these young people at the annual 4-H Club Sunday assembly held several weeks after the drive. Eight hundred persons were present in the Fairmont high-school auditorium when 4-H Leader Kittleson presented the clubs with bonds aggregating \$10,000. People in the audience had come from all sections of Martin County, not only to pay tribute to the 700 boys and girls now in 4-H Club work, but also to honor the 70 former 4-H boys and 1 girl who are seeing action all over the globe as soldiers, sailors, and nurse. That evening they dedicated a service flag to these young people, who had traded their overalls for khaki. Seventy-one gold stars on a 4-H green-and-white flag served as a reminder of Martin County's fighting manpower.

One of the stars stood for William Reader, Martin County's first prisoner of war. Another star stood for Marian Agnes Mair, now a nurse stationed at Fort Sill, Okla.

In dedicating the service flag, Julius E. Haycraft, district court judge at Fairmont, paid high tribute to the fine qualities of manhood and womanhood inculcated by 4-H training. "With this magnificent American spirit which 4-H has done so much to build, we can win, we must win, we will win!"

During the ceremonies a collection was taken up. Again the Fairmont Sentinel's



editor took up his pen to comment on the proceedings: "A collection was taken, but, as its purpose was not announced, it amounted to but \$40. Had the audience known what it was for, the amount would easily have been doubled and redoubled." The amount was divided between the USO and the Navy Relief.

Throughout the month of May, a picture of every former 4-H boy now in the fighting

forces of this country was exhibited in a bank window in Fairmont, the county seat of Martin County. Harvey M. Johnson, president, said that the bank window had to be washed twice daily to keep the nose and finger prints from getting too thick. All day long, shoppers paused to study the faces of those 4-H boys who were in camp, on ships, and in foreign lands. Many of the passers-by had seen these boys grow into their first long pants.

onstration material was used. A week in advance, listeners were advised to get ready for the lesson on culling by selecting and having ready two birds, one supposedly good and one poor bird.

On the day of the lesson, listeners were given a second chance to get their hens. The lesson was presented by the instructor's using two birds and proceeding on the basis that all the listeners were present with their own hens.

More favorable comments were received on this lesson than on any other—enough to warrant running the recording made of the lesson.

Recordings of each program were made several days in advance of the actual broadcast for use on the cooperating radio stations. Two commercial stations carried the program.

## Your poultry short course is on the air

### Pointers on "How to keep 'em laying" help Illinois poultrymen prepare for Victory output

■ Tuning in on the Poultry Short Course of the Air, Illinois farmers have been keeping in touch with the latest developments in the wartime production of poultry and eggs without even leaving their homes. This special 10-week short course by air and mail, first of its kind in the State, has been conducted by Illinois' poultry extension specialist, H. H. Alp.

As part of Illinois' extension program to help farmers in their 1942 all-out wartime production of food for victory, the course was planned so as to reach the greatest number of people without necessitating any travel on the part of extension workers.

Advance publicity was given the short course by press and radio. County agents furnished their local newspapers with illustrated news stories about it. Flash radio announcements heralded its forthcoming over the air.

Enrollment in the course was open to all interested persons. In an effort to get some idea of the number of regular listeners, people were urged to sign a registration card which was obtainable at the county agent's office. Actually to enroll, the listener mailed this card to Mr. Alp. Every person who enrolled was sent a complete outline for each of the 10 lessons. The correspondence phase of the course permitted greater coverage of the subject and was insurance against poor radio reception and the possibility of anyone's having to miss a broadcast. Ten special-question cards were sent the farmers enrolling in the course, so that they could send their poultry questions on each broadcast to Mr. Alp for a personal answer.

Registration cards were sent in by 738 poultry farmers from 92 of the 102 counties in Illinois. The unwillingness of people to sign documents of any kind, the fact that registration cards had to be asked for, and that postage was necessary for mailing undoubtedly resulted in a considerably smaller number of registrants than the total number listening in.

During the short course, the enrollees sent in 276 questions relating to the various broadcasts. Every question was acknowledged and, in some instances, answered both by mail and

by radio. Sufficient questions were received to take up one-third of each lesson period.

Ten broadcasts of 25 minutes each covered such wartime poultry production problems as: (1) The Illinois poultry industry as it affects your poultry enterprise, (2) selecting the right amount and type of poultry equipment, (3) everyday problems in chick brooding and rearing, (4) summer management of growing pullets, (5) poultry housing and ventilation problems, (6) culling the laying flock, (7) feeding and management of layers, (8) preparing poultry for freezer-locker storage, and (9) how to stop disease losses. The tenth lesson broadcast was in the form of a written examination, consisting of 10 questions that had previously been mailed to all those enrolled. The questions were of the type requiring an answer expressing the person's own opinions. This type of question was used to get people to express for themselves the teaching given throughout the course and to measure, if possible, the value of radio teaching.

A special certificate was issued to everyone who sent in an examination paper. No attempt was made to influence the listener by playing up the certificate as a bonus. The 121 poultry raisers who mailed in their examination papers were notified of the special broadcast which would announce the names of those being awarded the certificates. The feature of this broadcast was an interview with the farm woman who received the highest grade, 99. The lowest grade was 59.

All the subject-matter material in the broadcasts was presented in conversational style. Although a manuscript of about 21 pages was prepared for each broadcast, the script was used only as a guide. From written comments of the listeners this informal presentation was apparently well received and was effective. The proof of the effectiveness of this method came from the written examinations. A catch phrase, such as "roost sitter," was easier to remember than a straight statement of fact describing such a bird.

One of the most interesting results of this project was the apparent value of the demonstration method of teaching in radio work.

In lesson 6, which dealt with culling, dem-

### Plan Milk Routes To Save Tires

Trucks and tires can be saved in hauling Wisconsin milk by consolidating milk routes and by loading the trucks more efficiently.

A survey of a typical Wisconsin dairy county was made by C. M. Hardin and R. K. Froker, agricultural economists at the University of Wisconsin, in cooperation with the State Department of Agriculture. This showed clearly that reorganization of milk hauling is a partial answer to truck and tire shortages and can also bring surprising savings in time, money, and effort. Froker and Hardin found that most waste in milk hauling comes from duplication of routes. Underloading and inefficient use of trucks add to the waste.

Overlapping territories between plants account for about 30 percent of the total milk-hauling mileage, these surveyors report. Another 10 percent loss comes from poor arrangement of individual plant routes.

Translated into mileage, route readjustment promises savings of up to 40,000,000 miles annually in Wisconsin milk trucking. As normal truck tires last up to 50,000 miles and standard trucks use six tires, route changes can save up to 5,000 truck tires yearly in assembling milk in the State.

Not only tires but trucks themselves could be conserved through better planning, the economists observe. Many milk haulers make only one trip a day. But in the county in which the survey was made, route consolidation and elimination of duplication would reduce the total mileage of individual routes and, in most cases, permit truckers to make at least two daily trips. That would trim 20 percent from the number of trucks needed, the investigators estimated.

More efficient loading would leave room for added savings, the study showed. In the county studied, the average load was 4,000 pounds; but if this average could be made a minimum, with no loads smaller, an added economy of 10 percent could be made in use of trucks.

Proper milk-truck routing and loading would reduce Wisconsin's needs by at least 1,000 trucks, it was estimated.



# Kentucky grows winter surplus

■ Everywhere in Kentucky there is an increased interest in gardens. Farmers and townspeople alike report greater activity. Farmers have planted larger gardens with a greater variety of vegetables, with perhaps a 15-percent increase in both size and variety. Particularly in supplying surpluses for winter use and in extending the garden season to late fall are the gardens noteworthy.

Extension agents have been busy helping farm families to take care of this surplus. Early in the summer, 14 district training meetings were held, attended by county agents. The matter of storage and dehydration apparatus was presented by the farm engineer. Models were shown, and up-to-date information not only was presented but was made available in mimeographed form for later use by the agents in training the leaders in their own counties.

The benefits of a fall garden—what to plant, how to control insects—in short all one would like to know about making a fall garden—were told by the field agent in horticulture, John S. Gardner, who took the lead in Kentucky's Victory Garden campaign. A discussion on how garden leaders may serve from now until frost was found particularly useful.

Neighborhood leaders played an important part in the Kentucky Victory Garden plan from the first. The organization was built around local leaders, some of them former food leaders and some specifically garden leaders. They were chosen as being good gardeners whose example might be effective among their neighbors. An average of 30 leaders to a county was suggested, but, as the organization swung into action, more leaders were needed. All neighborhoods set to work delineating and mapping neighborhoods. When this was finished the last of July, a leader in each neighborhood was appointed, making from 45 to 80 leaders in each county. With this organization now complete, Victory Gardens are on a basis to make even greater headway next year.

Training the leaders was a problem. In January and February, all county agents with a selected group of their leaders attended three or four county district-training meetings. A home-economics specialist discussed the relation of gardens to good nutrition for the family and presented garden, canning, and storing budgets to keep the family healthy the year round. The field agent in horticulture discussed garden plans and ways in which garden leaders can serve their communities in war-times.

These meetings were planned to serve as a pattern for leader-training meetings within the county, and all material was mimeographed to be used in the later leader meetings. Twenty-seven of these district meetings were held, with a total attendance of 1,919.

The agents and selected leaders then held a series of neighborhood leader training

meetings to reach all the garden leaders. The leaders were asked to do certain specific things! To get in touch with their local merchants to make sure that good certified seed, wilt-resistant or of a reliable variety adaptable to local conditions, was available at the stores; to invite their neighbors to see how they treated their own potatoes against scab or sprayed their beans against the Mexican beetle. Each leader sponsored the gardens of at least five neighbors and was given five copies of garden literature. They helped agents to find meeting places in their neighborhood and often helped the agent to conduct the meeting.

A garden-leader service letter was sent to each leader every month except June. In addition, emergency leaflets were sent to them to meet special emergencies which arose, such

as Care of Irish Potatoes Until Frost and Home Saving of Vegetable Seed.

A series of 34 weekly articles on timely garden subjects written by the field agent in horticulture was much more widely used by local editors than in former years. These articles served to support the work of the garden leader, and were also much appreciated by the town gardeners.

Due to the good work of these garden leaders, insects were controlled better in Kentucky gardens, and merchants sold more good seed, especially certified seed potatoes. The average estimated ratio of certified versus common seed potatoes was 8 to 2. As Kentucky gardeners harvest their vegetables and fruits, finding plenty for an abundant table and a well-stocked store for winter use, they feel that they have done their bit to strengthen the home-folks with good food and to release on the market foods for war use. They know that they are in a position to do even better next year.

## Hoosier Victory Gardens prosper

ORAN W. MANSFIELD, Assistant County Agent Leader, Indiana

■ Plans are already under way for another Hoosier Victory Garden program in 1943, which will start earlier in the year and with more careful planning on the use of educational material than was possible for the 1942 Victory Garden effort. It will be based on the excellent cooperation and interest developed during the past year. The experiences of 1942 will be used to the fullest extent in helping all gardeners to produce more of their family food supply than they ever have done.

Victory for the Hoosier Victory Garden movement in Indiana was made possible by State-wide cooperation of all agencies that could contribute toward its success. At Purdue University, the departments of agronomy, botany, entomology, home economics, the extension editor, and county agent supervision all helped to plan the strategy for the year.

The plans included suggestions on what should be done on the county level, and it was announced what the counties could expect in the way of cooperation from the departments at the university. The approved plans were sufficiently flexible to permit county situations to be fitted into them easily. The need for better gardens, as well as more gardens, was emphasized. Even the weatherman cooperated with the proper amount of rainfall and temperatures to give excellent results to Victory Gardens.

The success of the Hoosier Victory Garden program is due to the fact that every one of the 92 counties had a definite plan of action. One member of each county agricultural extension staff was delegated the

responsibility for the garden program. Organizations such as civic clubs, the farm bureau, the parent-teacher association, AAA, and FSA were valuable cooperators.

Leader-training meetings were held in practically every county of the State by W. B. Ward and Carl Smith, Purdue extension specialists in vegetable crops, and by county workers. More than 3,000 voluntary leaders carried garden information to rural groups and urban communities. Information available shows that practically every farm in the State had a garden, and that there was a 100-percent increase in the number of city and suburban gardens. Most of the increase was in suburban gardens because city gardens were not encouraged. There was a 50-percent increase in the enrollment in 4-H garden clubs.

Publicity, including printed news stories, circulars, leaflets, and Hoosier Victory Garden stickers, provided information and interest which were helpful. Totals of 120,000 family food charts, 105,700 copies of the family-garden leaflet, 165,000 Hoosier Victory Garden window stickers, and 100,000 leaflets entitled "Home-Garden Pest Control" have been furnished. The Hoosier Victory Garden stickers were provided by the Indiana Home Economics Association. In order to be entitled to the stickers, cooperators were required to enroll in the garden program.

Particular attention was given to maintaining an interest in garden work throughout the growing months. "Victory garden hints" news mats were furnished to all interested weekly and daily papers of the State. This mat was a heading for news stories from



the university and also for local stories. Garden stories were released at least once each week for all papers. In addition to this type of publicity, numerous timely presentations and 14 radio transcriptions were used by 4 or 5 radio stations each. All Indiana radio stations and the 4 large clear-channel stations outside the State serving Hoosier listeners carried Indiana garden material.

Producing garden products has not been the only aim of the Hoosier Victory Garden program. Considerable time and effort have been devoted to preserving the surplus crops and storing them in the proper way. The home-economics extension department at the university has emphasized the canning phase of the program, and the horticulture department has provided information and encouragement to farmers, urging them to enjoy the summer's garden the year round. A great deal of the produce has already gone into cans or is stored in the cellar for the winter months.

## Florida cans in community centers

■ Fresh Victory vegetables pour into Florida's community canning centers and go back home in cans ready for the family's well-balanced meals whenever they are needed. In June alone, Duval County's 8 canning centers filled 18,054 containers. This canning program, carried on for several years through the cooperation of the Board of county commissioners, has been intensified since Miss Pearl Laffitte, home demonstration agent, has been made county chairman of home gardens and food conservation of the defense council. Women bring their fruits and vegetables to the centers and do the canning themselves with the assistance and instruction of a supervisor. They provide the jars and pay 1 cent for pints and 2 cents for quarts to cover cost of fuel used.

The West Orange defense canning kitchen is now averaging 200 cans daily. In 2 weeks this nonprofit kitchen put up 1,200 cans of surplus vegetables brought by women who live nearby and who lack equipment or necessary canning skill. This first defense kitchen in Orange County is under the supervision of Mrs. Nellie W. Taylor, county home demonstration agent, who also serves as county chairman for the Defense Council. Mrs. Daisy Lawrence, community canning chairman at Gotha, in Orange County, tells how in her neighborhood they combine observation with conservation. Two couples meet at the airplane observation post. The men gather tomatoes and beans while the women watch and report planes. Then the men take over the observation posts, and the women take over the vegetables, putting them into cans. Thus 100 cans were put up.

Saint Petersburg has a completely equipped canning center, provided through cooperation

## Victory Gardens in the Atlantic

■ North Carolina specialists returning from field trips tell of almost 100 percent cooperation by farm people in the Victory Garden campaign.

Howard R. Garriss, assistant plant pathologist, said he found some of the best Victory Gardens in the State on a recent trip to Dare County. "What's more," Garriss declared, "these super Victory Gardens were on the Outer Banks, that narrow strip of North Carolina that lies out in the Atlantic Ocean. It was remarkable the type of gardens being grown in the heavy sand in the beach country."

Traveling with County Agent Paul Choplin in a bright-red car which Choplin calls his beach buggy, Garriss said he first visited the Waves settlement. There he found, among other things, that two 4-H Club boys had built

a fence around their gardens to protect the vegetables from the wind-blown sand. The youngsters are eating potatoes, collards, squash, strawberries, and other crops from their Victory Garden. At Salvo, where the "soil" is a little more promising, another 4-H Club boy was growing Irish potatoes, collards, turnips, beans, cantaloups, watermelons, kale, and cucumbers.

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## Harvest Shows Flourish

Victory Garden harvest shows in every part of the country from Newark, N. J., to Hawaii show the wisdom of storing home-produced and home-processed foods. They were healthful, of fine quality and abundant. The vegetables displayed were not trucked in on rubber tires, nor did they use valuable space on freight cars or boats. These potatoes, cabbages, turnips, squashes, carrots, and apples are samples of many things that go into the family storage cellar to substitute for familiar canned goods now released for the armed forces or for our hard-pressed Allies.

A good Victory Garden harvest calls for repairing the storage cellar, better methods of canning, drying, and preserving; and these are the things of common talk at the Victory Garden harvest shows. Fully 50 percent more families are canning fruits and vegetables this year than last.

The wisdom of growing Victory gardens is becoming more and more apparent with the growing food demand and squeeze on transportation seen at present in the meat situation. Anything that a community or family can do to anticipate dislocations of food distribution and make itself more self-sufficient will relieve the strain on war-burdened food-handling industry.

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## Negro Gardens

In Mount Olive community, Miss., a large Negro community in Holmes County, 96 percent of all Negro farmers had outstanding Victory Gardens. In addition to growing Victory Gardens, they bought war bonds, pledging more than \$15,000. All the money received from the sale of scrap material is being invested in bonds and stamps.

■ At present, 17,000 extension Minutemen of New York State are assisting State foresters in the drive to insure enough fuel wood for the coming winter. The Minutemen visit farmers and wood-lot owners to find available sources of fuel wood and pass this information on to the foresters.



## Entomological Information via Radio

Insects are no respecters of persons. They affect men, women, and children in all walks of life. Entomology cuts across most other subject-matter departments, and rare indeed is the person who has not now or at some time in his life had some interest in insects. As a boy, he collected them. While the first sentence of this story, was being written such a boy entered the door of my office to receive information about identifying moths. As an adult, man combats insects that have taken possession of his crops, trees, stored food, shelter, and clothing.

Persons possessing a fund of correct information about insects are rare, and the average person has little opportunity to contact such individuals. The radio offers this opportunity. Some entomologists still question its usefulness for giving information about insects. Not so the extension entomologist who prepares his material well. The radio gives him an opportunity to reach people who have never reached him or their local county agent. How much the information heard over the air influenced them in making an important decision may never be known.

The program of the extension specialist may be made up with care and deliberation, and with the intention of serving groups and classes among both adults and juniors. Yet this program is not complete without giving some attention to the use of the radio for reaching the great body of people known as the public.

With regard to insect control, the radio gives the entomologist a chance to say to John Smith why he should wait for the fly-free date this fall to escape loss in wheat from the hessian fly. He clinches this with the information that John did not have but needed in making his decision. Perhaps he never spoke to a soul about the specialist's part in his decision, but he made it then. It gives John's wife an opportunity to learn what can be done to prevent moth damage to clothing and facts that help her in dealing successfully with garden pests. Best of all, it gives the entomologist an opportunity to reach his regular clientele with periodical spray-service information. Radio spray service has become a much-used branch of extension information in our own State, the extension plant pathologist and entomologist cooperating in giving the service throughout the fruit-spraying season.

Experience has taught us that spray-service radio broadcasts must be based on information gathered in the entire area served by the radio and must be well organized with respect to time of broadcast and holding to that time. In giving this service, we are catering to a special-interest group, though a large one, that puts the information to immediate use.

An opportunity to check on listener interest in a more or less specialized entomological subject was offered the writer after broadcasting on the Farm Hour of a large commer-

## ONE WAY TO DO IT! Methods tried and found good

cial station in Cincinnati, Ohio. With only 1 previous announcement by air of the program to come, an interview type of talk on termites and their control brought 503 requests for literature on termites. These came from 8 States and largely from people who had first-hand experience with the termite problem.

Again, it was a surprise to find that the mechanic and partner in a local battery shop, though he had no garden, was listening to our series of radio broadcasts on garden insects and enjoying them.

The ability to judge results of a single radio talk may be lacking, but if the material is timely and well presented, it reaches many people who are influenced in making their decisions. The radio is a useful and powerful method of disseminating information about insects. Perhaps we do not take it seriously enough in formulating our program. During the period of possible insecticide shortages, tire conservation, and gasoline rationing, this medium offers a convenient and economical way to reach the public with timely information.—  
*T. H. Parks, extension entomologist, Ohio.*

## Neighborhood Leaders Did the Job in 1917

The neighborhood-leader system is no new method of carrying on emergency extension education in Iowa. It was used in World War I, and it worked effectively then, just as it is going to work in the present emergency.

How these patriotic educational cooperators aided in the food-production effort back in World War I can best be illustrated by the story of how they helped Iowa to meet one of the worst seed-corn situations in her history.

In 1917, a cold, wet summer, followed by early September frosts and climaxed by hard freezes in early October, caused most of the corn to be killed or severely injured. Even much of the corn that had been gathered for seed early and hung up to dry was killed. To make matters worse, nearly all of the old corn had been used.

To plant the 1918 crop and to insure a reasonable reserve, Iowa needed 2¼ million bushels of seed corn. To fall short of that goal would mean serious curtailment of livestock production, as badly needed for the war

effort then as it is now. Naturally, it was important that good seed be planted for maximum production. It was generally agreed that every effort to avoid shipping unadapted seed into the State should be avoided, though nearly everyone doubted that good seed could be found in Iowa.

To meet the situation, Governor Harding appointed a State seed-corn committee composed of Judge S. A. Clock, A. R. Corey, secretary of the State board of agriculture, and the extension director. This committee developed a plan providing that the War Emergency Food Associations (later, county farm bureaus), in cooperation with the county agent, should select one cooperator from each school district (an area of approximately 4 square miles). This made approximately 140 cooperators for each county, or 14,000 for the State.

The governor issued a proclamation officially appointing these cooperators to take a seed-corn census of the State. A copy of this proclamation, with instructions and blanks for the job, was sent to each cooperator through the county agent, who was also officially designated to receive the return reports. Each cooperator was asked to contact every farmer in his district—by telephone, in person, or otherwise—and to obtain the important information about seed corn. He was asked to find out among other things how many bushels of seed corn he would have to buy or how much he had for sale, when the corn was selected, whether he intended to make an ear test, and how much 1916 corn he had on hand.

This thoroughgoing census did what most people thought could not be done, it located close to a million bushels of old corn besides large amounts of new corn from which seed might possibly be obtained through careful ear testing. And, more important perhaps, it emphatically called to the attention of every farmer the necessity of making an ear test on his own corn.

When farmers began testing, they found the condition of their seed more serious than they had supposed. The information thus gained concerning the low quality of seed spread rapidly, and it is a safe conclusion that practically every farmer in the State made a special effort to get seed that would grow.

The best way to measure the work done by Iowa farmers with the help of neighborhood leaders is through a study of corn-production results the following year. In spite of the seed shortage, Iowa farmers procured one of the best stands of corn in the history of the State. In spite of unprecedented hot winds over a large section of the State in August 1918, which reduced the yield by millions of bushels in some areas, the Government report of November 1 credited Iowa with a crop 44,477,000 bushels above the average for the 10-year period preceding the war.

This was a volunteer war effort carried out under voluntary leaders—similar to the plan



now being developed in nearly every State. In time of war or other great emergency, this method is most successful and effective in meeting difficult situations. The block system of leaders was used by the Iowa Extension Service during the remainder of World War

I and has been used since, in time of emergency, in both men's and women's work.

Under the stimulus of patriotism it is working with great efficiency in this present crisis.—*R. K. Bliss, Director of Extension Service, Iowa.*

## Homemakers' club builds a community

■ When women of the Hillsdale Homemakers' Club of Carroll County, Md., found their membership outgrowing the capacity of their farm-home living rooms, they decided that they ought to have a clubhouse. And it wasn't just wishful thinking either. Away back in 1923, when they organized with just nine members, they dreamed of a day when the club would be large enough to need a clubhouse, and almost 20 years later they got it.

The land for the clubhouse was given by a retired farmer who is interested in the local community life, and the owner of the adjoining property gave an additional piece of land for a parking space. The building is of cinder-block construction, 30 by 60 feet in size, and is equipped with stage, kitchen facilities, electric lights, and heating plant. Present dining equipment includes such things as chairs, tables, and dishes for 75 people. The latest improvements to the clubhouse have been landscaping of the grounds, planting of trees, and the digging of a well on the property.

It would seem just the wrong time for a small group of people to be building a clubhouse; but this group was thinking not only in terms of their own present need but of the needs of the children who are growing up on the farms in the vicinity and have no center for recreation and social life. There is no actual community by the name of Hillsdale but a community of interest has developed among a group of farm families as a result of the homemakers' club, and people are beginning to call that part of the county Hillsdale, after the club. Hillsdale people are known because they belong to the club that has a clubhouse.

The Hillsdale Girls' 4-H Club is an outgrowth of the homemakers' club, and the boys' 4-H Club was organized when the clubhouse was built. The menfolk always bring the women to the meetings and have an informal meeting of their own in a part of the clubhouse that is curtained off just for them. They say they are going to make a clubroom for themselves in the unfinished part of the basement and have an organization of their own. The men are as regular in their attendance as the women are, and sometimes they remind the women of their club meeting date.

When the Hillsdale Homemakers' Club acquired the land for their building, they incorporated to facilitate the ownership of

property and immediately launched a finance campaign beginning with pledges from families of club members. They also asked for individual contributions of as little as 15 or 25 cents to pay for one or two of the blocks that went into the building, and people responded very well in buying "building blocks." The club raised most of the needed money, however, through entertainments, suppers, catering, quilting, and socials. The girls' 4-H Club did their share by holding a series of recreation nights at their own homes, and the money raised was used to purchase material for the stage curtains, which were made with the assistance of the homemakers' club members.

This project is a perfect example of family and community cooperation. Pledges were made on a family basis, and most of the labor was provided by the husbands of the club members. The husband of one club member, who is a builder by trade, supervised the whole job; another husband, who works with heating and electricity, did the wiring and set up the heating plant. All the men helped to clear the ground and dig the foundation, and the women provided picnic lunches and refreshments for the men while they were at work. Specialized labor, such as masonry, roofing, and floor finishing, was done without cost, by friends of club members, so there was no expenditure for labor, and the business people from whom building materials were bought gave reductions on their bills as their contribution to the clubhouse. Even the architect donated the plans. Work on the building was started in July 1941, the cornerstone was laid in September, and the first meeting was held in December with about 100 people present.

When some townfolk heard the homemakers' clubwomen talking about building a clubhouse, they thought the women had "just a lot of dollars and very little sense"; but time showed that they had a "lotta" sense and just a few dollars. In June 1941, they had a little more than \$100 in their treasury and 6 months later they had their clubhouse built. The entire building cost was about \$1,600, they have spent \$160 on equipment, and their total debt is just \$650. They plan to retire the debt in 2 or 3 years, besides purchasing additional equipment. Instead of having a bank or broker handle a mortgage for them, an older 4-H Club girl who has been employed for a few years advanced the \$650 and holds the club's note for that

amount. The clubhouse is used on the average of once a week, and once every month a social affair of some kind is held by the club.

This enterprise is a distinct asset to the community and to the county, not only because it may be used by other agricultural organizations and club groups but because it shows that a small group of women out in the country can plan big projects and carry them through.—*Adeline M. Hoffman, home demonstration agent, Carroll County, Md.*

### To Save Gasoline and Rubber

To save travel and yet preserve some of the advantages of our two big rural get-togethers of the year, a single county-wide field day and annual meeting was held on August 29.

With county fairs "out" for the duration, nearly every farm family in the county attended the picnic. The morning was devoted to a business meeting, with reports, resolutions, and election of officers. The afternoon was given over to sports and a short speaking program. The feature event of the day was a barbecue-lamb dinner; 10 lambs were cooked over charcoal fires.

Goddard College at Plainfield extended an invitation to the farm people to use its campus. Since the institution is located near the geographic center of the county, the amount of travel necessary to get to the picnic was reduced to a minimum. Through the press and circular letters, farm people were urged to double up with their neighbors so that every vehicle coming to the picnic would carry its maximum load.

An invitation was also extended to land-corps volunteers, work-camp farm helpers, and other city folk who have been helping county farmers with their harvesting during the past 2 months.—*W. G. Loveless, county agent, Washington County, Vt.*

### Leaders Function in Emergency

Neighborhood leaders in St. Charles County, Mo., were not found wanting when the need came. When the black-walnut area was threatened by flood and the levee weakening, neighborhood leaders got busy and in 2 hours had 100 farmers and 7 trucks moving families out of the area and furnishing manpower to hold the levee. Their work supported the levee and saved 10,000 acres of land from floodwaters. This emergency action is a sample of the many things the neighborhood leaders are doing in the 39 neighborhoods of St. Charles County. Each neighborhood has a chairman, vice chairman, secretary, and job leaders, and a general information leader who maintains a bulletin board in the neighborhood for all kinds of rural war information.

■ Nearly three times as many pigs and nearly twice as many calves are being raised by Maine 4-H Club members this year than in 1941.



# The fight is on for farm fire prevention

■ Since February, when Secretary Wickard placed responsibility on the Extension Service for protecting rural America against destructive fires, State extension services have been organizing at the grass roots—among the farmers themselves. Fire prevention week—October 4—is a good time to review the progress being made by some of the States in their effort to protect farms and forests from fires.

Of the 44 counties in Idaho, 41 now have some type of organized volunteer effort for the prevention and control of rural fires. The 34 counties having county agents have organizations in various stages of completion, with a total of 663 active volunteer companies. The remaining 10 counties consist largely of national forest or grazing service lands, in which both the Forest Service and the Grazing Service have appointed per diem guards and have actively promoted volunteer organizations.

In four counties which have neither complete organizations nor training, rural fire organizations are being completed in conjunction with neighborhood leadership programs, and some rural fire training has been given in each of the counties.

## Volunteers Prevent Bad Fires

In a number of counties in Idaho, volunteer rural fire companies already have responded to rural fires. In Power County, 200 volunteer firemen turned out to fight 12 range fires in 12 days. Lack of suitable equipment prevented one volunteer company from coping with a farm structure fire. Volunteer companies have also responded to range fires in Lincoln, Oneida, Bingham, and Caribou Counties, each time preventing large disastrous fires. In Washington County, two volunteer companies prevented a serious hay fire from spreading to nearby structures. Farmers in general are becoming increasingly more fire-conscious, a trend for which the rural fire project may in part be responsible.

In Nebraska the counties of Blaine, Thomas, Grant, and Hooker—all range land area—have been well organized for rural fire control. Each county has been districted and a farm fire warden selected for each district. There are about 60 districts in the 4 counties. A chief fire warden also has been selected in each county.

The farm fire wardens list the equipment that each rancher has available, and if any rancher does not show that he possesses certain essential equipment such as a shovel, he is politely asked to obtain such equipment.

Caches of fire-fighting equipment, including shovels, torches, kerosene, and the like, have been deposited in different areas, particularly in the Nebraska National Forest area for use by fire fighters. At Halsey, the Nebraska Na-

tional Forest has splendid equipment and is cooperating with the organization for fighting prairie fires. A large truck, on which are a crawler tractor and a two-bottom plow, is kept ready at all times to go at a moment's notice.

Many telephone lines are being repaired and put in good condition, and additional telephones are being installed in order to make reporting of forest fires more efficient. The organization has gone along very satisfactorily generally in the range land area of Nebraska. Ranchers are always afraid of prairie fires and are really fire-conscious and eager to help in developing an organization to try to prevent as much fire loss as possible.

At the Maine summer conference, immediate and vigorous action was called for on the part of the Extension Service to provide information and leadership in a program for prevention and control of farm fires. Extension agents and the extension forester are continuing every possible aid to assist the Maine Forest Service with their forest-fire prevention and control program.

As the season advanced and fire hazards increased, more work was done by extension agents to improve and strengthen fire-control organizations in Wyoming. County agents are working in close cooperation with Forest Service officials and OCD representatives within the counties.

The Weston County (Wyoming) Civil Defense Fire Committee completed plans for an all-day training meeting on fire-fighting methods and fire control, to be held at the Mallo Canyon Recreation Camp in July. Three or four representatives of the Forest Service were to be present to conduct the demonstration. They asked all wardens and cooperators in the fire-control organization to attend interesting and educational sound pictures on fire fighting and fire control to be shown by the Forest Service. A complete system for reporting forest fires and getting fire-fighting assistance is being organized.

## Maryland Provides Handbooks

The State-wide fire-prevention and control program in Maryland is well under way. A comprehensive handbook, outlining in detail the procedure in setting up the program in a county, was supplied to each county agent. The agents are holding conferences with all interested agencies in the respective counties to map out programs with the following three major objectives: (1) The use of extension neighborhood leaders in visiting all rural families with check sheets of fire hazards and farm fire-fighting tools, (2) recruiting and training young people as fire watchers, and (3) recruiting, organizing, and training auxiliary firemen and forest-fire wardens.

In New York 2,650 boys and girls are active

in the fire-prevention program under the leadership of the county club agents. Local fire insurance companies and local firemen's associations are cooperating. In several counties, fire-prevention contests for 4-H Clubs are under way, insurance companies having offered substantial prizes to the winners.

For the second year the National Association of Mutual Fire Insurance Companies has regarded a boy and girl for their work on farm fire surveys and farm fire prevention. The boy and girl winning the trip to the national convention of the association, which was held in Chicago in September, are Dorothy Lukes, of Winneshiek County, Iowa, and Wendell Walker, of Macon County, Mo., both 4-H Club members.

The Farm Underwriters Association has provided 45 scholarships of \$100 each for 4-H Club boys and girls to be divided among the 15 Central States for their activities on farm fire prevention.

The fire-prevention program was launched through the neighborhood leaders in Kentucky. The State chairman, and community and neighborhood chairmen, and leaders are carrying out a State-wide educational program to eliminate fire hazards. Leaders are making personal visits to farm families, distributing literature, and holding meetings. Each family will receive a check sheet as a guide and record. Cooperating agencies include the State Fire Underwriters.

## Firefighters Save Wheatfield

Definite "dividends" already have been returned to one Umatilla County, Oreg., community for having set up a trained rural fire-fighting organization. When a wheat fire broke out on a farm about 10 miles north of Pendleton one evening, organized and well-equipped fighters responded so quickly from the Despain and Stage Gulch communities that the fire was brought under control after burning only 10 or 15 acres. The fire apparently was caused by a spark from a truck exhaust pipe.

Farm women spread the alarm quickly over rural telephones, and in a few minutes farmers began arriving, equipped for fire fighting, whereas in former years it was not uncommon for volunteers to come without necessary tools and equipment.

Approximately 1,100 such rural units are now organized in the State, determined to hold fire losses to an absolute minimum this year.

■ To forestall possible injuries to farm workers that might cut down their food-for-freedom activities in the present labor shortage, 4-H Club boys and girls of Washoe County, Nev., have been removing hazards from farm and ranch yards. Boards with nails protruding have been removed, broken steps and ladders have been repaired, and tools and equipment have been stored in their proper places.



# Nebraska practices rubber conservation

■ Nebraska victory leaders are on the job. When the Office of Defense Transportation asked that travel, automobile speed, and trips be reduced voluntarily, the victory neighborhood leaders carried the information to farm families.

In trying to meet this request, rural people found that just neighborliness offered a solution to some of the transportation problems. Trips to town are pooled, with one neighbor either picking up those in his community who need to go to town or doing the errands for him. In rural sections where telephones are rare, ingenious methods are being devised to let neighbors know when others are going to town.

In several communities in Jefferson County, anyone desiring some produce taken to town or deliveries from town merely hangs a yellow board about 5 by 10 inches on the gatepost. On the back of the board is written the order. The first neighbor passing picks up the message and completes the errand in town. In another community in a level section of the State, a red flag is tied to the windmill tower which can be seen for miles around. This announces to the neighbors that this man is going to town and will take passengers or buy groceries.

Community sales to give farm produce a short haul to market and shipping associations to get maximum use of trucks are 2 other methods of attacking the transportation problem. For instance, 7 families in Lutz and 3 in Harrison organized to get produce to town. A group of 100 farmers joined together and hired a truck to take care of trucking stock to market. Whenever 1 man has stock to go, he calls the trucker. Others do the same. When a load is made up, the trucker picks up the animals and hauls them to market . . . not for just 1 man, but for several. Formerly 4 or 5 trucks were needed to do this same job.

Two trips each week are made from one community 26 miles from town. Taking turns, one neighbor makes the trip for all the others. The Nebraska State Department has ruled that these trucks can use a farm truck license if the hauling is done as part of ordinary neighbor-to-neighbor exchange of labor and equipment.

A farmer in Papillion helps by placing his order for feed ahead of time, and when the trucker happens to be coming by the farm he brings the feed along. He doesn't make a separate trip for several bags of feed. An oil company cooperates by not sending out a truck until enough orders have been received to make a load. Produce dealers are working with farmers in planning efficient pick-up trips.

Many farm families have announced their

intention of saving rubber by making but one trip to town each week. All town activities, meetings, and social affairs are planned with this in mind. Cars come into town fully loaded. Two families in Boyd County have made pick-up trucks with seats and chairs which bring the neighbors into town. They bring their lunch and eat on the courthouse lawn. One of these pick-up trucks regularly brings 10 men and women into town every sale day. Farmers say: "The trips we have been making no longer seem necessary when we face a situation like this."

In one school district, one family takes all the children to school 1 week. The next week it is someone else's turn.

What is the effect of all this planning to reduce travel on rubber? County Agent Sam Lingo at Walthill says a filling station operator there estimates his pump sales are down 25 percent. A merchant estimates a 30-percent decrease in the travel of those visiting his store. In Sheridan County, a definite decrease in speed of rural trucks and cars has been reported. The number of miles traveled has been lessened by 20 percent or more.

Victory leaders are giving a real service to their communities in making possible a better understanding of war measures and co-operating with such agencies as the agricultural war board and ration board. When rural people understand the problem and what is wanted, they find a way.

## New Slidefilms

The following slidefilms have been completed by the Extension Service in cooperation with the Bureaus of Animal Industry, Dairy Industry, and Entomology and Plant Quarantine, and may be purchased at the prices indicated, from Photo Lab, Inc., 3825 Georgia Avenue NW., Washington, D. C. At the same time that the order and remittance are sent to the above firm, a copy of the order should be sent to the Extension Service, United States Department of Agriculture, requesting authorization to make the purchase. Upon request to the Extension Service, blanks for this purpose will be supplied. Mimeographed lecture notes for use with each film will be furnished by the Extension Service.

No. 616. Transferring Bees to Moveable-Frame Hives. (36 frames, single \$0.50; 36 frames, double \$1.)

No. 619. Neighborhood Leaders Mobilize—The Farm Front. (50 frames, single, \$0.50; 50 frames, double, \$1.)

No. 623. Feeding and Care of the Dairy Calf. (49 frames, single, \$0.50.)

No. 627. Pigs Can't Shoot. (62 frames, single, \$0.55; 62 frames, double, \$1.25.)

■ WALLACE S. MORELAND, extension editor in New Jersey for more than a decade, took up his new duties as assistant to the president of Rutgers University, September 8.

A native of Salem, Mass., Mr. Moreland received his bachelor of science degree from Connecticut State College. He taught poultry husbandry at the college for 2 years, at the same time carrying on a news service. He came to New Jersey as assistant editor in 1928 and since then has handled the news service for the college, Extension Service, and Experiment Station. He became extension editor in 1931.

One of his achievements has been the excellent educational radio programs in New Jersey. The extension editor's office is now conducting more than 30 broadcasts a month over four leading stations including such well-known programs as the Radio Garden Club with a record of 9½ years of uninterrupted broadcasting and most of that time over the Mutual's coast-to-coast network, the Homemakers' Forum and a series of early morning farm programs over major stations in New York and Philadelphia.

Mr. Moreland is president of the American Association of Agricultural College Editors and associate editor of New Jersey Farm and Garden.

■ SAMUEL H. RECK, JR., for the last 5 years extension editor in Iowa, took up the duties of extension editor in New Jersey August 17. Mr. Reck, a graduate of the department of journalism at Iowa State College, has had experience as Associated Press correspondent, reporter on the Evansville (Ind.) Press, and as extension editor in South Dakota from 1929 to 1934. He has had a great deal of successful radio experience both in Iowa, where he was farm editor for the Iowa State College Station, and in South Dakota, at the State College Station.

## Poultry Geared to War

Poultry extension work in Pennsylvania is geared to the war effort. The goal of 9 percent increase in egg production in 1942 was passed during the first 5 months with a 13-percent increase over 1941 production.

Seventy-five thousand copies of a special leaflet on the management and feeding of layers were distributed. Poultry-management meetings held by the specialists were attended by 9,875 poultrymen; and, in addition, county agents held many similar meetings. Plans for making poultry equipment, such as feed hoppers and waterers, of wood and other noncritical materials rather than metals have proved helpful to Pennsylvania poultrymen.

The relatively high cost and limited supply of certain important feedstuffs made it necessary to study other mixtures that will give the desired result in egg production, hatchability, and growth. Mash mixtures for hens, chicks, and turkeys were revised to meet this war situation.



# Neighborhood-leader contacts get greater response

■ The responsiveness of Massachusetts farm families to wartime responsibilities of agriculture has been greatly stimulated by personal contacts with their neighborhood leaders according to a recent study. The survey involves 221 farm families chosen at random in Berkshire and Essex Counties and interviewed the last of May to determine their response to two extension war programs conducted by neighborhood leaders during the preceding January and February.

Fifty-seven percent of the families had been contacted by neighborhood leaders on the salvage program and 48 percent on the fertilizer program.

Nearly twice as many of the families contacted by neighborhood leaders responded to the salvage program as families who were not contacted. Seventy-six percent of the families contacted by the leaders and only 42 percent of those not contacted turned in scrap metal.

The response to the "order fertilizer early" program was nearly three times as great among the families which the leaders had contacted as among those not contacted. Seventy-seven percent of the families contacted by the neighborhood leaders ordered fertilizer early, as compared with only 27 percent of the other families.

The neighborhood leaders speeded up the ordering of fertilizer. During the period of

the neighborhood-leader contacts the rate of response of the families contacted increased while the response of the families that were not contacted continued at the same rate as shown in figure 1.

Before the neighborhood leaders made their contacts (January 15) the percentage of farmers who had already ordered their fertilizer was about the same for both groups—20 and 21 percent.

During the neighborhood-leader contact period, the response of the families contacted increased sharply while the response of the families not contacted continued at the same rate.

By May 29, 67 percent of families contacted by the neighborhood leaders had ordered fertilizer. Of the families not contacted, only 52 percent had ordered. The remaining percentage in each group had not yet ordered their fertilizer, but only 2 percent of the families contacted and 16 percent of those not contacted had no good reason for not ordering.

A broad community effort bordering on the nature of a campaign produced greater response. In Berkshire County, the neighborhood leaders got in touch with the families in their neighborhood a second time during May to collect scrap metal. This effort was sponsored by the Committee on Public Safety, the WPA, and the Extension Service, using

## EXTENSION RESEARCH

Studying Our Job of  
Extension Teaching

Berkshire County as a test county. The families were asked to collect their scrap metal in a convenient place for WPA trucks to pick up. The families would be paid for the scrap they turned in. The purpose of the procedure was to make it easy to dispose of their scrap metal. The WPA however, found it impossible to make any trucks available. Junk dealers and local trucks finally picked up the scrap.

In Essex County no second effort was made to collect scrap metal. Both counties closely paralleled each other in their response before the neighborhood leaders made their contacts and during the period of the neighborhood-leader contacts. During the neighborhood-leader period the rate of response increased somewhat in both counties.

During the month of May the trend continued in Essex County, where no extra effort was made to influence families to turn in scrap metal. In Berkshire County, the curve turned up sharply. By the end of May, 65 percent of the farm families interviewed in Berkshire County and only 37 percent in Essex County had turned in scrap metal.

(Left) Response of Farm Families by Type of Coverage. (This pictograph was taken from a leaflet prepared by the Massachusetts Extension Service.)

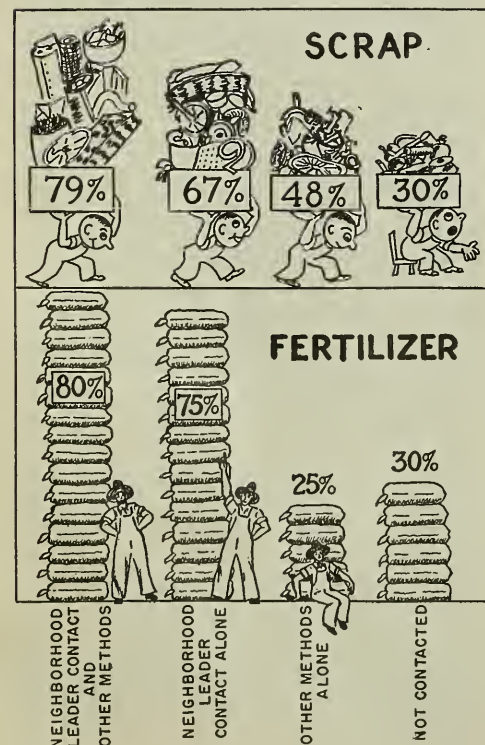


Figure 1.—Response To Order Fertilizer Early Program.

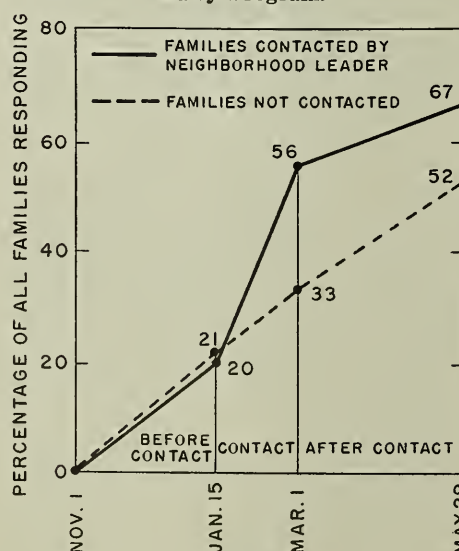
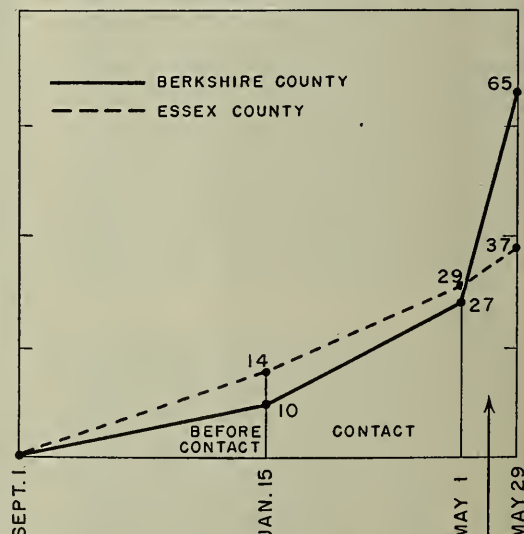


Figure 2.—Response to Salvage Program.



NEIGHBORHOOD LEADER CONTACT PLUS COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND W.P.A. IN BERKSHIRE COUNTY BUT NOT ESSEX



(See fig. 2.) The remaining percentage in each group had not yet turned in scrap metal, but only 13 percent in Berkshire County and 29 percent in Essex County had no adequate reason for not turning in scrap metal.

The neighborhood leaders were informed of their assignments by letter or by the county agent or the chairman of the Rural War Action Committee in person. No training meetings were held in Berkshire and Essex Counties. The leaders were given one page of information explaining the need for scrap metal and the impending fertilizer shortage.

Each leader discussed the information circular and the recommended action to be taken with the families in their neighborhood. The information circular was left with some of the families and it was mailed to others by the county agent.

Some of the families also heard of the fertilizer program—through the press, the radio, and representatives of commercial fertilizer organizations. The salvage program had also been brought to their attention through the news, the radio, and collection drives by the church and other organizations. In each type of coverage shown in the pictograph, the neighborhood leader contacts had higher response than without their contacts.

A greater appreciation of the seriousness of the wartime programs apparently had developed among the families who had been reached personally by the leaders. The salvage situation seemed more serious to 44 percent of the families, and the fertilizer situation seemed more serious to 27 percent of the families following visits from their neighborhood leaders.

The complete study is available in Evaluation Study of the Neighborhood Leader System—Berkshire and Essex Counties, Mass., May 1942, by Fred P. Frutchey, Federal Extension Service, and James W. Dayton, Massachusetts Extension Service. USDA Ext. Serv. Cir. 386.

■ The value of wheat in fattening lambs was well demonstrated again in the Oregon 4-H Club lamb-fattening contest, according to H. A. Lindgren, extension livestock field man, and L. J. Allen, assistant State club leader in Oregon. In the contest this year, 324 lambs were fed by 28 different boys and 1 girl.

Of the total number of lambs fed, in lots of 12 each, 114 graded Good to Choice, after 110 days of feeding, 147 graded Medium, and 71 graded Common.

Wheat fed whole plus chopped alfalfa hay proved to be the most successful fattening ration. Pens in which the lambs were fed plenty of hay and wheat, but not with the regularity required, made poor gains compared with those fed properly.

■ "Carry full loads both ways" is the slogan of Mississippi farmers who are cooperating in moving products to market and in hauling supplies to their farms on the return trip.

## Mississippi bookmobile visits home demonstration clubs

■ The Alcorn County, Miss., Library comes to the homes of home demonstration club members by way of the bookmobile, which delivers books of fiction and nonfiction for young and old, juveniles and adults. The bookmobile is on hand at home demonstration meetings, makes the rounds of the library centers established in three homes and a store, and distributes magazines at the county home demonstration and 4-H Club camps. It stops at the home demonstration club market every 2 weeks to check on the members' book requests.

A recent innovation in the bookmobile service is the county library bookshelf for farm families with books of interest for all members.

Families with club members are permitted to borrow 10 or 15 volumes for a month or more. The books are exchanged by club members or are collected by the bookmobile at subsequent meetings.

Another interesting innovation is the bookmobile children's hour held at all home demonstration club meetings for children who

accompany mothers to meetings. Stories, poetry, and drama make up the program.

The bookmobile also carries a shelf of books required for high-school and college students' book reports. Some of the young people make use of their summer vacation to do their required reading for the following school year. Religious books are also included for use of homemakers assisting in vacation Bible schools.

The county librarian has talked to the 19 home demonstration clubs on the set-up of the county library, the service available, and the cooperation desired. All the homemakers using the library have registered, and 100 members enrolled as Alcorn County Friends of the Library. From this group, delegates are chosen from time to time to represent the homemakers' clubs at library conferences.

The homemakers of the county have achieved a new record during the past year in the use of the county library and cooperation with it, says Home Agent Ruth Ethridge, who has been the guiding factor in promoting the bookmobile service.

## The 5-S Club for India

The 5-S Club is an adaptation for use of young people in India of the 4-H Club program which has had such a successful development in the United States. The 4-H stands for Head, Heart, Hands, and Health, and a great variety of projects have been organized about them. The 5-S is so called because of translation, as it was not possible to find words in Hindustani and Urdu beginning with "H" which even approximate the 4-H ideas. Also, as the four-leaf clover is not well known in India, it was thought wise to choose another symbol. As the lotus symbolizes purity and is rooted in common pools but rises above the surface to bloom, the lotus bud is used as the symbol of a program that it is hoped will help boys and girls to keep their roots in their village homes but may enable them to rise above the present level to live rich, full lives in a village environment.

The 5-S is based on the relationships of life as follows:

Sonship.—Man's relation to God (Sututr, sutpan). This includes projects in developing the spirit.

Selfhood.—One's relation to one's self (sihat). Mental and physical health projects are included.

Service.—One's relation to one's neighbor (sewa). Projects in community service are suggested.

Stewardship.—One's relation to one's posses-

sions (supurdagi). Appreciation of life's possibilities as well as possessions is fostered by these projects.

Skills.—One's relation to his work (sana't). Vocational projects are suggested.

## On the Calendar

Annual Outlook Conference, Washington, D. C., October 19-23.

American Dietetic Association, Detroit, Mich., October 19-22.

American Royal Livestock and Horse Show, Kansas City, Mo., October 23-31.

Future Farmers of America, Kansas City, Mo., October 24-31.

Nineteenth Annual Exposition of Arts and Industry, sponsored by Women's National Institute, New York, N. Y., October 26-31.

Fifty-sixth Annual Convention of the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities, Chicago, Ill., October 28-30.

4-H Radio Achievement Day Program, Farm and Home Hour, Blue Network, November 7.

National 4-H Achievement Week, November 7-14.

American Society of Agronomy, St. Louis, Mo., November 11-13.

Farmers' Educational and Cooperative Union, Oklahoma City, Okla., November 16-18.

National 4-H Club Congress, Chicago, Ill., November 29-December 5.



# Last-minute items

## Reflecting current extension activities as we go to press

TRANSPORTATION problems continue to be of vital importance. Two recent things which bear on these problems as they affect extension agents are the Baruch report which suggests limiting the mileage on cars to an average of 5,000 miles and recommends national gas rationing, and the general ODT order 21 which becomes effective November 15. The ODT order will require each operator of a farm truck, as well as any other truck, to obtain a certificate of war necessity as a prerequisite to buying gasoline, tires, tubes, or parts. With these things in the offing, extension agents are studying the local situation with farmers to figure out ways of making maximum use of all available trucks and cars.

Facilities for transportation in 45 South Dakota counties are being surveyed by the experiment station, in cooperation with county extension agents and war boards. Neighborhood leaders, are getting facts from all farm families in selected school districts in 25 counties. Oil companies, creameries, and produce houses are also cooperating by listing their facilities. Truckers are being checked at livestock sales rings, packing plants, stockyards, and grain elevators.

A SOYBEAN CONTRACT for processors has been released by the Commodity Credit Corporation for handling soybeans, soybean oil and meal. This is part of a program to get the meal into the hands of feeders to insure the continued operation of processing plants and support the price of beans.

A NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP survey shows that such leaders are at work in 95 percent of the counties of the United States. In 93 percent of these counties, leaders already have lists of the families for which they are responsible.

WHAT'S IN A NAME? They are generally called neighborhood leaders, but in four States they are known as Minutemen, and in four States as Victory leaders. They are Victory committeemen in Tennessee, Victory councilmen in New Mexico, Victory volunteers in Georgia, and neighborhood war service leaders in North Dakota.

THE TRAINING AND SERVICING of these leaders is on the program in every State. Georgia has just completed a 4-day conference for the State staff, organized on the workshop plan. District meetings for county agents will follow the last of September or the first of October.

FIGHTING WASTE by killing the cattle grub, which takes an estimated toll of 10

percent of the meat needed by our fighters and bores holes in the best part of the hides needed for military uses, is a must program in many States. November is the time to begin a campaign against the grub which is then on the backs of the cattle and can be killed.

SURGICAL SUTURES made from sheep intestines are a wartime necessity. The Secretary of Agriculture has received a second letter from the Secretary of War calling attention to the need and asking the help of American farmers in meeting it. The nodular worm disease of sheep is the great saboteur of the raw material for surgical sutures, for it is common in flocks of the United States.

THE OUTLOOK CONFERENCE being held in Washington October 19 to 23 is rounding up economic information on war problems and taking a look ahead to the world after the war. A great many significant facts on inflation control, farm labor, marketing problems, and family living have been assembled for study and discussion.

4-H ACHIEVEMENT WEEK will be celebrated November 7-14 with a national radio broadcast and special exhibits, meetings, and demonstrations for local clubs throughout the Nation. They call it a 4-H report to the Nation, for 4-H Club members want every citizen to know what they are doing to help win the war.

## EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW

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EXTENSION SERVICE  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
M. L. WILSON, *Director*  
REUBEN BRIGHAM, *Assistant Director*

WAR PROGRAMS, present and future, received attention in four regional administrative conferences during September. The Extension Wartime Advisory Committee met in Washington and set the ball rolling. Extension participation in wartime programs such as farm labor, farm machinery repairs, gasoline and tires, production goals, training and development of neighborhood leaders, and other emergency activities were on the agenda. Committee members consulted with representatives of other agencies working on these problems. These problems were then taken to the regional conferences for further discussion with directors or assistant directors of each State.

WOMEN ARE NOW ELIGIBLE for election as county and community AAA committeemen to administer the AAA program next year. The Department also announced that AAA's articles of association were being amended to permit farm wives, as well as women farming in their own name, to vote in the committeemen's elections and to hold office.

MARKETING THE RECORD PIG CROP is still one of the main problems before Agriculture. As the critical months of November and December approach when the bulk of the 62 million spring pigs will go to market, extension agents are studying their local problems, inventorying the truck situation, and organizing to pool facilities and insure market outlets. With the number of spring pigs 25 percent above last year and fewer trucks to haul them, the heavy marketing months will require a good job of planning and cooperation if waste and loss are to be avoided. A Department committee on hog marketing and transportation is working on the problems, and A. B. Smeby of AMA has been assigned to work with them.

VICTORY GARDENERS proudly display their fine vegetables, fruits, and flowers at harvest shows. There is a tremendous interest in canning, storing, and preserving in every State. For example, demonstrations were given in 56 counties in New York. Part-time workers were employed by State War Council to assist agents in food-conservation program. Forty-five thousand people attended 1,000 meetings. Less sugar, a home-made drier, salting, pickling, and packing for freezer lockers were all emphasized. The Bureau of Home Economics estimates that 2½ billion cans will be put on family pantry shelves in the United States this year.

SCRAP GOES TO WAR. In every State extension agents are doing their part in meeting the emergency need for scrap. 4-H Clubs are going to town with it. The Victory garden club of Holbrook, Mass., put on an intensive campaign which netted 3 tons and 100 pounds of mixed metals, as well as other salvage material.